LESSON PLAN

The Sportsman and the Squirrel

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Start with a brief discussion about what compassion means. Ask students to share examples of when they felt compassion or were on the receiving end of it.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Sportsman and the Squirrel" aloud. After reading, ask students to summarize the story in their own words and identify the key moral.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Break students into small groups to analyze the characters' motivations and the significance of the sportsman's actions versus the squirrel's response.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Ask students to write a short paragraph reflecting on a time they acted with compassion or how they could improve their understanding of others' needs.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick quiz or discussion to gauge understanding of the moral and character analysis.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Sportsman and the Squirrel; True compassion requires understanding the needs of others rather than imposing one's own misguided intentions.
- **Plot Summary**: A sportsman, having wounded a squirrel, attempts to end its suffering with good intentions. However, the squirrel expresses that it wishes to live despite its injury, highlighting the importance of recognizing others' true needs rather than acting on misguided compassion.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Sportsman**: Represents misguided intentions and the need for self-awareness.
  - **The Squirrel**: Embodies the voice of those suffering, advocating for understanding and respect for individual desires.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral of the story and its application in real life.
  - Students will analyze character motivations and their significance in conveying the story's theme.
  - Students will engage in discussions about compassion and empathy.
  - Students will reflect on personal experiences related to the themes of the story.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does true compassion look like, and how can it differ from misguided intentions?
  2. How can we better understand the needs of others in our daily lives?
  3. What lessons from moral stories like this one can we apply to our behavior towards others?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Sportsman and the Squirrel"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for reflection activities

✓ Original text available on the story page.